

S.N. 10/654,550
Art Unit 2852
Atty Dkt 100110809-3

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 12-14 and 23-38 were pending in the application prior to this amendment. Claims 2, 5 and 9 have been amended herein. Claims 3, 13 and 14 have been canceled. Claims 6, 7, 12 and 23-38 remain in the application unchanged. Accordingly, after entry of this amendment, claims 2, 5-7, 9, 12 and 23-38 will be pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration are requested.

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I. Rejection of Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Oyler (U.S. 5,426,493). Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection is requested.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-7

Claim 2, as amended herein, recites the following:

A converter for converting a non waste-residue collecting toner cartridge to a waste-residue collecting toner cartridge, the converter comprising:

a) a waste-residue collection site with an opening wherein the opening is positionable proximate a photo conductor drum disposed within the cartridge;

b) a waste-residue remover operably associateable with the photo conductor drum; ~~and~~

wherein the waste-residue remover is a scraper;

wherein the waste-residue collection site is a waste-residue hopper; and

wherein said waste-residue hopper and said scraper are selectively removable as a unit from said waste-residue collecting toner cartridge.

Claim 2 has been amended, as indicated above, to recite that the waste-residue collection site is a waste-residue hopper. This language derives from originally-filed dependent claim 3. Claim 3 has been canceled herein and claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 2 rather than from canceled claim 3.

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Claim 2 has further been amended herein to recite that the hopper and the scraper are selectively removable from the cartridge as a unit. This language is fully supported by the application as originally filed with reference to drawing Fig. 2 and, for example, the portions of the written specification reproduced below. No new matter has been added.

The converter 22 may include a waste collection site, which may be a waste-residue hopper 24, and a waste-residue remover, which may be a scraper blade 26, mounted next to the drum 14. In one embodiment the blade 26 is attached to the waste-residue hopper 24.

(page 6, lines 10-14)

The converter 22 may be removable from the cartridge 10 for emptying the waste-residue hopper 24 thereof as may be required during operation of the cartridge 10 through its first or a subsequent toner recharge period.

(page 7, lines 9-13)

The amendment to claim 2 presented herein is believed to overcome the instant rejection in that Oyler does not disclose a scraper and waste-residue hopper that are removable as a unit. With reference, for example, to Fig. 2 of Oyler, a cartridge 20 has an opening "O" therein that is selectively closeable by a lid 100. A cavity "H" is formed within the cartridge beneath the lid 100. A cleaning blade 4 is separately mounted to the cartridge 20. Oyler discusses this arrangement, for example, as follows:

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Access opening O, when uncovered, gives access to cavity H for cleaning residual developer from blade housing segment B, and removing and replacing cleaning blade 4.

(col. 5, lines 20-23)

Thus, although the Oyler cleaning blade 4 is removable from the cartridge 20, the cavity "H" appears to simply be formed as an opening in the cartridge. The Oyler cavity "H", thus, is not removable from the cartridge. Accordingly, the Oyler blade 4 and cavity "H" are clearly not "removable as a unit" from the cartridge as now recited in claim 2.

For at least the reasons advanced above, applicant respectfully asserts that claim 2, as amended, is not anticipated by Oyler.

Claims 5-7 are allowable at least as ultimately depending from allowable base claim 2; claim 3 has been canceled.

Claims 9, 12 and 13

Claim 9, as amended herein, recites the following:

A converter for converting a non waste-residue collecting toner cartridge to a waste-residue collecting toner cartridge, the converter comprising:

- a) means, comprising a waste-residue hopper, for collecting waste-residue from the photo conductor drum; and
- b) means, comprising a scraper, for removing waste-residue from the photo conductor drum and directing the waste-residue into the means for collecting waste-residue;

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wherein said waste-residue hopper and said scraper are selectively removable as a unit from said waste-residue collecting toner cartridge.

As indicated above, claim 9 has been amended herein, in a manner similar to claim 2 discussed above, to now recite that the hopper and the scraper are selectively removable from the cartridge as a unit. Accordingly, claim 9 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons advanced above with respect to the rejection of claim 2.

Claim 12 is allowable at least as depending from allowable base claim 9. Claim 13 has been canceled.

Claim 14

Claim 14 has been canceled.

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II. Allowed Claims

The Examiner has indicated that claims 23-38 are allowed.

For the reasons advanced above, it is believed that all of the claims should be in condition for allowance.

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